

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3299
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2006
POLICY FOR RURAL TOURISM .
Masood Shri Rasheed

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Union Government has formulated a new policy for rural tourism;
- (b) If so, the salient features thereof; and
- (c) The steps taken by the Union Government to implement the said policy?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a), (b) & (c): The creation of infrastructure in Rural areas having potential for tourism is being supported under the existing scheme of Destination Development, while community participation and capacity building, including skill up-gradation in such rural areas, are being supported through GO-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project. The objective is to showcase rural life, art, culture and heritage at rural locations and in villages, which have core competency in terms of crafts/ handloom/ textiles/culture etc.

Under the scheme funds are sanctioned and released to the State/UT Governments. Based on proposals received from State Government during 10th Five Year Plan, the details of Central Financial Assistance extended for development of each such village for infrastructure creation is enclosed at Annexure- I and central assistance extended for capacity building etc. under UNDP project is enclosed at Annexure – II.